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## Letter from Elias Baker to Anna Clemson, 1858 August 9

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Alleghany Furnace  
Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> 9. 1858

Dear Madam

I can not help but  
express my thankfulness to you for your  
kindness & attention this day week,  
now about the same time we then  
arrived in Washington. (6 o'clock)

Not being in time for the proper or  
regular Boat running in connection  
with the Orange & Alexandria R. Road,  
I succeeded in getting on another  
Boat that was about starting for  
some other place, but stopped at Alex  
andria, by which I succeeded in  
getting on board the Cars just two  
minutes from the time I took my  
seat, until they started. which was  
accomplished by running the last  
part of the distance from the Boat  
to the Cars, & getting myself in a fine



Sweet. There being no carriage or  
other conveyance then at hand,  
I hope you got home safely without  
getting wet, as there was a smart  
little shower between 11 & 12 o'clock  
where I then was. I have since  
frequently thought of our pleasant-  
early little jaunt that morning, with  
pleasure. The more so, on account  
of the pleasure I had in not being  
left by the cars.

I had a very pleasant trip. I  
went the extent of the Orange & Ayley-  
-andria Rail Road to Gordonsville,  
from there I went by Virginia  
Central R.R. Road to Richmond,  
where I very pleasantly spent two  
days. Viewing the very splendid  
water power, Flour Mills, Iron  
works, Tobacco Manufacturing  
Ware Houses, &c, &c, with very  
great satisfaction & pleasure.



Returned by the old route, "Alqua  
creek" to Alexandria, Washington,  
Batta, <sup>from the Boat</sup> viewing for the first time,  
Mt. Vernon, and other pretty sights  
on The Potomac, and arrived  
at home on Saturday evening,  
and found all well & things going  
on as usual.

I did not succeed in making  
sales of Iron in the course of  
my trip. That article seems  
as dull and as little call for  
South, as there is north, or west,  
how long it will so continue,  
is hard to divine, perhaps not,  
until we get a "Protective Tariff",  
which I hope may not be long,

Very affectionately &  
Truly Yours

Mrs. Thos. G. Clemons

Oliver Baker